

Testimony of Bruce Redman Becker
Before the Energy & Technology Committee

In Support of
HOUSE BILL 5385, AN ACT CONCERNING ENERGY RETROFITS
FOR CERTAIN BUILDINGS AND THE DISCLOSURE OF THE
ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF CERTAIN BUILDINGS

Submitted by
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President, Becker and Becker Associates, Inc of Fairfield, CT
March 8, 2012

Senator Fonfara, Representative Nardello, and members of the Committee,

I am pleased to have the opportunity to comment on House Bill 5385, AAC Energy Retrofits for Certain Buildings and the Disclosure of the Energy Efficiency of Certain Buildings.

I am an architect and developer of green buildings, including 360 State Street in New Haven, which is the largest residential building in Connecticut, the only LEED Platinum residential building in the State, and the first residential building in the world to be heated and powered by a fuel cell. Because of a significant investment made in dozens of energy efficiency technologies, the 500 apartments at 360 State Street have utility bills that are less than half the average of other similar apartments and 75% less than the average energy costs for households in Connecticut.

Providing consumers access to energy data will provide an incentive for developers to make their buildings more efficient and also protect consumers from unanticipated economic hardship. In the absence of available information about heating and electrical use, renters base their economic evaluation in selecting an apartment solely on the amount of monthly rent. This absence of transparency on energy costs creates a large disincentive for owners to invest in energy efficiency and rewards owners who choose to install less expensive and less efficient HVAC systems.

Please support HB 5385 for the cost savings it offers Connecticut residents, the benefits to our air quality, and the additional economic activity and jobs it will generate in the efficiency and energy services sector.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BRUCE REDMAN BECKER', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Bruce Redman Becker, President
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